

Resin Disposal

EPA Region 3

Pennsylvania

Allegheny County

In Jefferson Borough
near the Monongahela
River

EPA ID# PAD063766828

18th Congressional District

Last Update:

August 2002

Other Names:

Pennsylvania Industrial
Chemical Company
Hercules Inc. - PICCO
Resins

Current Site Status

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's plan for cleanup began in June 1995 and ended in November 1996. Cleanup for the site included a multi-layer cap for the landfill, an upgraded oil/water separator, and a fence around the perimeter of the landfill. Groundwater and surface water monitoring is being performed by Hercules Inc., a party responsible for site contamination, as part of the long-term operation and maintenance of the site. A Five-Year Review was completed in September 19, 2000. EPA finalized deed restrictions on the property and is preparing to delete the site from the National Priorities List.

Site Description

The Resin Disposal site located in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania (20th Congressional District) is a 26-acre site containing a two-acre

landfill. The landfill received approximately 85,000 tons of industrial waste from 1949 to 1964. At that time, the landfill was owned and operated by the Pennsylvania Industrial Chemical Company. The wastes included organic solvents, resin cakes, filter materials, and oils from a resin manufacturing process. The landfill is located in a strip mine valley, and was created by constructing an earthen dike across the floor of the valley. Approximately 50 people live within a half of a mile of the site, and about 25,000 people reside within a mile. The site lies about a half of a mile from the Monongahela River.

Site Responsibility


This site was addressed through a potentially responsible parties' actions with oversight by EPA and the State.

NPL Listing History

This site was proposed to the National List of the most serious uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites requiring long-term remedial action on December 30, 1982. The site was formally added to the list September 8, 1983, making it eligible for federal cleanup.

Threats and Contaminants

On-site ground water is still slightly contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) including benzene and toluene from former disposal practices. Prior to completion of the cleanup, threats to human health included direct contact with leachate from the landfill and ingestion or inhalation of contaminated soils on the site.

Contaminant descriptions and associated risk factors are available on the Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry, an arm of the CDC, web site at <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/hazdat.html> 

Cleanup Progress

Hercules, Inc., the only responsible party at the site, first installed a leachate collection trench and an oil/water separator to collect leachate from the landfill in 1973. This system was replaced and upgraded in June 1995. Leachate collected from the landfill is presently directed to an oil/water separator. The oil collected by this system is recycled and is burned as fuel in the nearby Hercules Jefferson plant. The water

from this process flows to a nearby wastewater treatment facility.

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection negotiated a consent order in November 1987 with Hercules Inc. to perform a full investigation and feasibility study. Using data from the investigation and study, the EPA selected a cleanup method for the wastes and nearby contaminated soils in the landfill. Hercules carried out this cleanup from June 1995 through November 1996.

Contacts

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Detailed public files (Administrative Record) on EPA's actions and decisions for this site can be examined at the following location:

U.S. EPA Region III
6th Floor Docket Room
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029
215-814-3157